(c) While the requirement of gas will be fully met, the self-sufficiency in crude oil at the close of 7th Plan would be about. 61 per cent.

Oil refining Industry

211. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Centre to assess the future technological requirements of the oil refining industry and also acquire, develop and adopt appropriate technologies for the purpose;

(b) if so, when was the Centre set up;

(c) whether any achievements have been made by the Centre so far; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) On 27th May, 1987.

(c) and (d) The Centre was set up only a few months back and has just embarked on its work. It has so far published the first issue of a quarterly technical journal which features various developmental programmes and achievements of indigenous refineries as well as latest technological trends. Activity Committees have also been constituted recently to identify areas of improvement and technological advancements.

Use of natural gas supplied through HBJ gas pipeline

212. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in the weekly 'Blitz' dated 29th August, 1987 with the caption '3000 Cr. sunk in HBJ pipedream';

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) what are the names of the three private sector fertilizer companies which were supposed to consume the bulk of natural gas but have been dragging their feet;

(d) what action has been taken against these private sector companies; and

(e) what arrangements have now been made by Government to make use of this natural gas and find new consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Three fertilizer plants at Sawaimadhopur (Aravali Fertilizers) Babrala (Tata Fertilizers) and Shahjahanpur (Appeejay) are expected to be delayed.

Fertilizer plants are delayed mainly on account of delay in selection of suitable sites, securing environmental clearances, formal transfer of land and finalisation of contractual arrangement for consultancy.

(e) The possibility of supply gas to additional consumers is being explored with a view to utilise the pipeline to the maximum extent possible.

Misuse of LPG cylinders meant for domestic users

213. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a difference in the price of LPG cylinder meant for domestic consumers and commercial consumers; if so, what is the difference;